

# OSCILLATOR

# OTVARC



1998 - TWENTIETH  
ANNIVERSARY  
YEAR

Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club (Est. 1978)

June, 1998

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Betty, N7REX

By the time you read these words, Sea\*Pac will be over for another year. I hope the weather cooperated and that most of you were able to make it down to Seaside. The post event pizza party for all of the helpers is always a great time to swap stories and make suggestions for coming years. We are dealing with jet lag and trying to finish all of the last minute details for our part - the exhibitors hospitality room.

Speaking of jet lag, our trip to Ohio was great. Our daughter in law's graduation was wonderful. Seeing both sets of our kids was good, but the trip was way to short at only 5 days with 2 of those being mostly flying time. The turbulence going was an annoyance. The seat belt sign was on for most of the trip. These old bones don't sit in cramped quarters for long periods of time very well. Charley and Molly will be moving back to Oregon in early June.

Our daughter, Frances, will be a principle rider on one of the legs of the Pony Express Tour this summer. The tour raises money for breast cancer research. If any of you are interested in sponsoring her, please let me know. An article about the tour and her involvement will appear in the July issue of the newsletter. Portland is one of the cities on the tour and is an overnight stop. Frances's leg, however, is in Ohio.

CQ, CQ, CQ. Field day is just around the corner. Come join the fun. Spend the entire weekend, the day, or a few hours. The pot luck dinner Saturday will be about 5:30 PM. If nothing else, come share a meal with us. There may be an admission to the park fee, so come prepared. Check with Alan KB7POR for a list of still needed items. Thanks to everyone who has already volunteered their gear, expertise, or ideas. We are looking forward to a great adventure.

Sea\*Pac volunteers who remember to wear their '98 pins to the June club meeting will receive a raffle ticket. 73, Betty N7REX

## NEXT MEETING

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10TH**

Oh Boy — this is going to be an eye opener! Our Vice Prez, JD Fort, worked hard to arrange a "hands-on" demonstration of the new, unique, *KALCHINA* Computer Controlled HF Transciever.

You may have seen the ads and wondered about it — you may have eyeballed it down at SeaPac and watched while someone played with it — now you will have a chance to be the operator, or stand right behind someone who is tuning around the bands and making a contact or two.

Yep, we will have an antenna setup outside at this meeting and we will be able to see what this exciting new technology does for us.

This transciever works with any computer running Windows 3.1, 95 or NT.

It covers all Amateur HF Bands, plus General Coverage receiver. The IF stage has 16/24 bit Digital Signal Processing and a DSP bandpass filter with widths from 100 Hz to 3.5Khz.

It has an on-screen display which is the front panel of the transciever. It replaces the old fashioned front panel with all the knobs and buttons.

This new rig is billed as a revolutionary HF transciever and will most likely "blow your socks off." Don't miss this meeting!!

W7OTV 146.90 (RPTR)

WWW.EASYSTREET.COM/OTVARC

## OTVARC '98 SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

By Carl, WS7L

The OTVARC Scholarship has been awarded to Ryan Poteet, KC7TAK. See his biography below, and come to the SEA PAC banquet for the presentation of the award. I will try to get Ryan to one of our meetings this summer so we can all meet him.

I would like to express my thanks to the other members of the scholarship committee, Ann Davis, KJ7ON, and Dale Mosby, K7FW, for their work. Special thanks go to Ann, who is leaving the committee to become a boat person. Thanks, Ann, and we'll look for you and Jerry on the maritime nets!

This leaves the committee, a small one to begin with, quite short. I would like to add two or three members. The primary duties of committee members are to review applications, interview applicants, and select the recipient. It's light (but responsible) duty, amounting to maybe 8 hours of work each year, mainly in the spring. Please give me a call at 629-5796 if you're interested in serving.

### INTRODUCING

Ryan L. Poteet, KC7TAK

Ryan became interested in Amateur Radio while very young, but did not know how to get involved. While working at the Damascus Safeway he began watching the parking lot for vehicles with unusual antennas. One day, he carried out groceries for Jack Baldwin, K7CL, thus finding his Elmer and starting his ham radio career in earnest. He became licensed in 1996 and soon upgraded to a General Class ticket.

Ryan, a Hoodview ARC member, is active on HF and 2 meters. He regularly checks into several nets, including ARES, enjoys pursuing DX and WAS, and is applying to MARS. He is the only ham in his family, but he's working on the rest of them.

Ryan is fascinated by all aspects of radio. He is a radio broadcasting major at Mt. Hood Community College, and runs a weekly program on their cable access radio station. He looks forward to a career in the broadcast industry and earning enough money to assemble an up-to-date amateur station.

In addition to his education and amateur radio pursuits, Ryan has been active in community relations with the Gresham Police Department. He participated in the Community Policing "Ticket to Ride" program by working on restoration of a '56 Olds 88 into a hot rod police car. This involved building a shop and doing an extensive off-the-frame restoration. The car has won numerous awards and never fails to draw attention wherever it goes. □□

## ANTENNA SAFETY

By Frank, KB7RNV

Like many amateurs, I enjoy building and installing antennas. The clear, warm days of summer usually bring an increase in antenna installation and maintenance. While antenna work is enjoyable, carelessness can lead to severe injury. Even the installation of the simplest wire antenna requires some attention to potential hazards. This article offers a few safety guidelines and protective measures. Common sense is the watch word when installing antennas.

Antenna work often requires that someone climb up on a tower, into a tree or onto the roof of a house. These are always potentially dangerous situations. Never work alone. Plan your work in advance. Think through each step. work slowly, thinking out each move before you make it.

Work only in good weather. Thunderstorms, rain, moderate to heavy winds, and damp or icy ground can create serious hazards. When installing a commercial antenna read the manufacturer's instructions and follow them carefully.

Be especially certain that your antenna is not close to any power lines. That is the only way you can be sure it won't. come in contact with them.

No surprises yet! All common sense precautions. Some or all you have heard before. Some you practice without fail. Others you may be a little bit more relaxed about. All of these guidelines apply to any work that you must do above the ground to install even the simplest antenna.

In many accidents, the antenna hits an electric power line. Reports of these incidents almost always contain statements such as: "didn't notice the power line," "misjudged the distance to the line," "thought the antenna and mast were under control." Check carefully for overhead power lines. Maintain a distance of twice the length of the assembled antenna and mast from all overhead wires. Have helpers available to assist in controlling the antenna. A sudden gust of wind or loss of balance can cause loss of control of the assembled structure. If that happens, all hands should let go and get out of the way of the falling antenna. Do not touch the antenna until it is determined no part of it is touching a power line.

If you must erect or move an antenna in an area where there are overhead power lines, take additional precautions. Use a nonmetallic ladder. Wear rubber boots or shoes, industrial rubber gloves, and a long sleeved shirt or jacket.

(Continued on page 3)

**A JUNE  
SPECIAL  
EVENT!**

**FIELD  
DAY!!**

## BORSCH ELECTRONICS

Communications Servicing

9935 S.W. Johnson St.  
Tigard, OR 97223

Joe Borsch W7PNS

(503) 684-5201

(Continued from page 2 - Antenna Safety)

These measures will not provide complete protection. They are only intended to minimize injury if the antenna assembly should come into contact with a power line.

So there you have it. A few safety guidelines to keep in mind when installing or removing you antenna.

- Plan before beginning work
- Check for overhead power lines
- Maintain control of mast assembly
- If the assembly falls get out of the way
- Read and follow manufacturer's instructions

Make it a habit to plan your work carefully. Consider the safety aspects of your project before beginning the work.

Don't be the one to say, "I didn't think it could happen to me." □□

## WHAT IS OTVARC FIELD DAY?

By Alan, KB7POR

**F**ield Day: 1) Competitive event where Amateur Radio operators set up equipment in the field to compete for score; 2) An event to test the readiness of Amateur Radio Emergency Communications; 3) A chance to meet new friends and test the limits of your favorite hobby. This is the ARRL definition of Field Day. OTVARC agrees with this, but I think we have a little more to say.

Yes we are competing. You may not be real big into the contest scene. Well, the good news is we do not take the competition too seriously. You can come and try your hand in a contest mode without fear of losing a contact and being sent home. What is important is that you give it a good try. You can try something new.

You can also try a new band or mode. Never had a chance to work sideband, come out to Field Day. No key at home, come to Field Day and try your hand at the CW station. No HF privileges, come work with another control operator and give it a try. You get the picture, Field Day is a showcase of Amateur Radio and you can come play with it.

This year we will have five stations on the air. There will be HF phone, HF CW, Novice/Tech, QRP and VHF/UHF. Each mode and each frequency has its own operating challenges and opportunities. Each station has its own types of antennas and supports. You can see how others setup and operate. It is a great learning opportunity.

We will start to circle the wagons Friday evening June 26. We can start gathering after 2:30 p.m. The operating time for the event runs from 11:00 a.m. Saturday through 11:00 a.m. Sunday. This year we are going for the "remote" location. This means that you will need to bring your own accommodations with you. For the Travelers this means one of those houses on wheels, for me it means a little nylon with some fiberglass poles. You figure out which one is more comfortable.

For those who do not wish to camp out for two days, we invite you

to come for as much time as you can. You can stop in just for a visit, moral support is always welcome. We really would encourage you to stop in long enough to spend some time on the air. After all, that is what Field Day is really all about.

We will be a long way from the nearest pizza place so there will be food. We will have a continental breakfast Saturday and Sunday morning. You will have the opportunity to make your own sandwich from the provided supplies for lunch on the two days. There will be typical Travelers potluck dinner Saturday night. Note that there is no food on Friday night. Please bring a few dollars to defray the cost of the food for the weekend.

Check out the articles in the May Oscillator for more information. Although the editor wants lots of copy to fill up the newsletter, I prefer not to repeat too much of the information. If you have any questions please call me, Alan Chinnock at 636-2237. □□

## WHERE IS FIELD DAY?

By Alan, KB7POR

**O**TVARC Field Day is being held at Willamette Mission State Park this year. This park offers a number of opportunities to enjoy the outdoors. There are hiking, biking and horsing trails available. There are also fishing opportunities. The park is home to the largest black cottonwood tree in the country. (Is black cotton an oxymoron?) It is also the site of much early Oregon history, at least early for the white settlers. And you thought you were coming for Amateur Radio Activities.

How do you get there? The easiest way is to go down I-5 from Portland. Take a right off the freeway at the Brooks exit. Follow the road to the west. There are signs to the Park and to the Wheatland Ferry. Follow these signs to the Park and come on in. We are in group area C. Once in the Park follow the signs to areas A and B. When you get near the shelters, we are to the left (the shelters are to the right).

We will use the 146.900Mhz repeater for talk-in. Thank you, Wes, for providing this repeater for our use. This repeater gives good coverage all the way from Portland to the Park. We look forward to seeing you at Field Day 98. □□

## THREAT TO 440 MHZ BAND

By, Mary Lou Brown, NM7N

Director, NW Div., ARRL

May 14, 1998

**J**ust before the Executive Committee meeting May 9th we were alerted to a serious threat to the 440 MHz band. Information provided us at the meeting indicated that this request for rulemaking by the Land Mobile Communications Council (LMCC) had a lot of support from a variety of groups having use for Private Mobile Radio Services (PMRS).

We asked ARRL HQ to prepare information for us that we could pass on to our members. That information is attached below. Please

(Continued on page 4)



(Continued from page 3 - 440 THREAT)

note that the comment deadline is June 1st. Because it is uncertain if the FCC is currently accepting electronic comments, it is best that you respond through the US mail (original plus 4 copies).

The threat from LMCC should give us additional reason to try to get our representatives in the House of Representatives to co-sponsor HR 3275, the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 1998. In dealing with the Congressmen, please make sure they understand the role Amateur Radio plays in providing communications during disasters. Also, that is frequent recent disaster experience that other communications system fail or become to overloaded that they do not function as needed. The 440 MHz band is the second most heavily used VHF/UHF frequency and our repeaters, etc. on that band are heavily relied on for disaster communications.

#### RM-9267: A Threat to Amateur Radio Interests

On April 22, 1998, the Land Mobile Communications Council (LMCC) filed a petition for rulemaking with the Federal Communications Commission to have two-thirds of the 420-450 MHz band (70 cm) reallocated to the Private Mobile Radio Service. The petition is designated RM-9267, and the FCC is accepting public comment until June 1, 1998.

The ARRL opposes the LMCC proposal. The 70 cm band is very popular among radio amateurs, and plays a critical role in our ability to provide emergency, public service, and public interest communications. The ARRL believes that the LMCC proposal is incompatible with continued amateur use of the band. RM-9267 is still only a proposal, and has not been acted upon by the government. We need your help in communicating our concerns to policy makers as they consider how to handle the LMCC's request.

#### Frequently Asked Questions About RM-9267

**What is the LMCC?** The Land Mobile Communications Council (LMCC) is a non-profit association of organizations representing users of land mobile radio systems, providers of land mobile services, and manufacturers of land mobile radio equipment. The user community includes public safety, business, industrial, private, common carrier, and land transportation radio users. The membership of LMCC includes the following organizations:

Association of American Railroads (AAR)  
American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO)  
American Automobile Association (AAA)  
American Mobile Telecommunications Association (AMTA)  
American Petroleum Institute (API)  
American Trucking Associations, Inc. (ATA)  
Association of Public Safety Communications Officials - International, Inc. (APCO)  
Cellular Telecommunications Industry Association (CTIA)  
Central Station Alarm Association (CSAA)  
Forest Industries Telecommunications (FIT)  
Forestry-Conservation Communications Association (FCCA)  
Industrial Telecommunications Association, Inc. (ITA)

Intelligent Transportation Society of America (ITSA)  
International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC)  
International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (IAFWA)  
International Municipal Signal Association (IMSA)  
International Taxicab and Livery Association (ITLA)  
Manufacturers Radio Frequency Advisory Committee (MRFAC)  
National Association of State Foresters (NASF)  
Personal Communications Industry Association (PCIA)  
Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)  
UTC, The Telecommunications Association (UTC)

#### **Why are they seeking more radio spectrum for land mobile radio?**

In response to a provision of the 1993 Omnibus Budget Act calling for regulatory parity among wireless Common Carriers and certain private wireless licensees that were providing service that was substantially similar to Common Carrier Service, the FCC developed separate definitions for Commercial Mobile Radio Services (CMRS) and Private Mobile Radio Services (PMRS).

LMCC members mainly are interested in PMRS. They claim that the FCC is favoring CMRS over PMRS because CMRS licenses can be auctioned, generating substantial revenues for the Federal Treasury.

**What is the actual proposal, and how would it affect Amateur Radio?** Based on its own spectrum requirements analysis, LMCC claims that the future additional spectrum needs of the PMRS community are as follows: 15 MHz by the year 2000, 44 MHz (i.e., another 29 MHz) by 2004, and 125 MHz (i.e., another 81 MHz) by 2010. It proposes:

Immediate needs be satisfied by a reallocation of 420-430 MHz, paired with 440-450 MHz, from Federal use to PMRS; Immediate/mid-term needs be satisfied by FCC allocation of 1390-1400, 1427-1432, and 1670-1675 MHz to PMRS, pursuant to its reallocation to the private sector from the government; Reallocate 85 MHz of the aeronautical band, 960-1215 MHz, to the PMRS by the year 2010 to satisfy longer term needs, shared with the developing DOD JTIDS/MIDS service.

At present in the United States, the Amateur Radio Service is secondary to military radiolocation (radar) in the 420-450 MHz

(Continued on page 5)

## **ROHN Towers**

**\*New 25 and 45 in stock locally\***  
**\*Gin Pole available for customer use\***  
**\*prices competitive with mail order\***

Stan Griffiths, W7NI  
18955 S.W. Blanton St.  
Aloha, OR 97007-1230

Internet: W7NI@teleport.com  
Phone: (503) 649-0937  
FAX: (503) 591-1620

(Continued from page 4 - 440 THREAT)

band. Originally a primary allocation, secondary status came about during the 1950s when Cold War concerns made national security a high priority. Limited non-government, non-amateur use of the band is permitted – but amateurs have priority over such use. LMCC misinterprets the significance of amateur secondary status and states that "Amateur applications in the 420-430/440-450 MHz should remain secondary to PMRS."

LMCC also suggests the possibility that, "recognizing that amateur radio service will see a net constriction by the recommended reallocation of 420-430/440-450 MHz," 1390-1395/1427-1432 MHz might be allocated to the amateur service to offset this constriction. "Constriction" is, of course, a bit of an understatement; LMCC has offered no ideas as to how amateurs could continue to share the bands.

**What should amateurs do?** First, what you shouldn't do: Don't complain to your Congressman about the FCC, or write a nasty letter to the FCC. The LMCC petition is a private-sector initiative, not a government proposal. By law, the FCC has to put the petition on public notice and invite comment. That's all the FCC has done with it. Criticizing the FCC at this stage would be inappropriate and counterproductive.

**Here is what you should do.**

1. Examine the list of LMCC members. You may be a member of one or more of these organizations. If you are, write to that organization as a member and inform them that the LMCC, which has listed them as a member and supporter, has taken an action that is contrary to your interests. Don't assume that they know anything about the petition or its implications for Amateur Radio, but do make it clear that as a member, you expect them to disavow the LMCC petition insofar as it affects Amateur Radio. A sample letter is attached.

2. Prepare a comment on RM-9267 and submit it to the FCC. At the top, it is very important that you clearly indicate the file number: RM-9267. Send an original and four copies to: Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, Room 222, 1919 M Street NW, Washington, DC 20554.

In your comment, explain how the loss of access to the 420-430/440-450 MHz band segments would affect you personally, and how it would affect the ability of radio amateurs in your community to provide needed public service. Even if you do not use these segments yourself, it is likely that loss of access would result in more crowding and interference in the part of the band, or in another band, that you do use. Don't overlook the fact that if you use linked voice or packet systems, it is quite likely that some of the links you rely on are in either or both of these segments.

3. If you are involved in amateur radio public service communications, arrange for the government and non-government agencies that you serve and ask for a written statement of their support.

4. Arrange for any Amateur Radio organizations that you belong to, to submit comments. This is especially important in the case of organizations with interests in the 420-450 MHz band.

**What if, in spite of our comments, the FCC decides it likes the idea?** The primary occupant of the 420-450 MHz band is the military. Before the FCC can take the next step toward reallocation, it must first obtain the agreement of the federal government. Then it would have to issue a Notice of Proposed Rule Making and must solicit public comments on its proposal. In other words, nothing is going to happen overnight and there will be at least one more opportunity for public comment.

**It seems we hear about threats to the amateur bands all the time. How serious is this one?**

The threat must be regarded as very serious. The LMCC is a bona fide and respected organization. We must assume that their proposal will be taken seriously.

**Where can I get a copy of the LMCC petition?**

The petition, with attachments, is 72 pages. We will have it available on the ARRL Web site:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/bandthreat/> as quickly as possible.

**[sample letter to LMCC member organization]**

American Automobile Association  
1000 AAA Drive  
Heathrow, FL 32746

Dear Sirs:

I have been a satisfied member of AAA-Connecticut since 1974. Recently, however, I have learned that an organization of which AAA is a member has taken a position, allegedly with the support of AAA, that is contrary to my interests.

On April 22, the Land Mobile Communications Council filed a petition with the Federal Communications Commission (designated RM-9267) that seeks to reallocate the frequency bands 420-430 and 440-450 MHz for the use of the Private Mobile Radio Service. These bands are now heavily used by radio amateurs, operating in the Amateur Radio Service, for a variety of public service and public interest communications. The reallocation proposed by LMCC is incompatible with these operations. As a licensed radio amateur for 35 years, I am dismayed by the LMCC proposal. I am even more dismayed to find that AAA, an organization I have long supported, is listed as an apparent sponsor of this proposal.

I ask you to determine whether AAA has, in fact, adopted a position in support of RM-9267, and if so, what steps can be taken to request reconsideration of this position. If AAA has not adopted a position in support of RM-9267, I request a written statement to that effect.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,  
David Sumner

## SOME THOUGHTS ON THE VALUE OF THE ARRL

By Editor, W7OTV

This article was sparked by comments made by the Editor of The MARC News in the April issue of the McMinnville ARC. Thanks to Bob Kuhn, KC7YN.

In the last few years, the amateur bands have been almost constantly raided by the commercial communications interests. Some have been successful, but thankfully, most of the attempts have been thwarted by the *timely* and intelligent activities of our national amateur Radio organization – the Amateur Radio Relay League. The ARRL is an organization devoted to furthering the hobby of amateur radio. Protection of our ham bands has become a large part of the ARRL's activity.

It is fortunate for us that the ARRL has been keeping our interests represented before the FCC, Congress and everybody else. Seems like a new windmill to joust with is on the horizon each month. Now that the Little LEOs have backed off trying to infect amateur radio VHF and UHF and set their sights on the broadcasters' RPU frequencies, the scanner bill popped up with the original intent of curtailing citizen monitoring of public safety and other business services.

And let us not forget the original version of the FCC rules requiring us to certify the near field emission levels of any base station over 50 watts.

All of these issues would seriously affect ham radio as we know it and could have caused serious problems if it were not for our national organization. The league was ready to quickly move forward with the proper scientific and technical arguments that got all of these problems pretty much resolved to our satisfaction.

What will be the next crisis? Could it be the FCC toying with the idea of delegating some of what has been federal authority to cities and counties to deal with the siting issues over where to put cellular and PCS antennas?

Recent action by the ARRL has been to push for the passage of the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 1998 (HR 3572). In essence, the bill would require the FCC to provide "equivalent replacement spectrum" if the Commission reallocates any primary or secondary Amateur Radio frequencies. The ARRL says the strategy is very straightforward – the bill needs to gather as many House co-sponsors as possible. For that to occur, *we* (that means you and I) need to write our Congressmen in the House of Representatives. Ask that Representative to become a co-sponsor of HR 3572, the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 1998. (Ed. Note – See the article "Threat To 440 Mhz" on page 3 for the latest

**HEY DADS!**

**Have a great Fathers Day!**

attempt to "Raid" the ham bands!) ☐

## NEW MEMBER

By Editor, W7OTV

Please welcome Steve Johnson, N7DIC, to OTVARC. Steve lives in Aloha. Please help Steve get acquainted and involved with the many opportunities provided by our club. ☐

## AREA CW NET

By Editor, W7OTV

A local CW Slow Speed Net is on the air each Wednesday evening at 7:30PM. It can be found at 28.310Mhz and the net control is AB7BI, Charles Beaver.

If you're interested in CW, but aren't sure what it is all about, this is a good net to start your listening. ☐

## NORTHWEST ASTRONOMY GROUP PLANS FIELD DAY ACTIVITY

All you astronomy fans who are going to attend the Fieldstar - 98 Activities can again indulge in some Field Day activities this year as well as participating in star watching. The dual festivities are set for June 26, 27 and 28 out in Vernonia at the Vernonia Peak Observatory, 55371 McDonald Road. Call Sandy Mikalow at 503 426-2430 for further information. ☐

## THE SETI LEAGUE, INC.

From a SETI letter  
By Editor, W7OTV

Have you ever wondered whether there are other intelligent beings alive in our universe? Would you like to help with the search for such beings? Well, here is your chance!

The SETI League (Search for Extra Terrestrial Intelligence) is composed of people who have organized for the purpose of helping to answer the fundamental question which has haunted humankind since first we learned that the points of light in the night sky are other suns. Are we alone, the sole sentient species in the vast cosmos? What we seek is existence proof, rather than dialog with alien civilizations.

Radiotelescopes will allow us to detect microwave radiation, either incidental or deliberate, from other technologically capable civilizations. The coordinated use of thousands of small radiotelescopes will maximize our chance of success.

(Continued on page 7)



(Continued from page 6 - SETI LEAGUE)

The typical amateur SETI station consists of a 3 to 5 meter diameter satellite TV dish, a suitable feedhorn, low noise preamplifier, microwave receiver, personal computer with sound card for analog to digital conversion, and appropriate digital signal processing software. A larger dish can be used, or a Yagi, quad, helical, or a loop yagi can be used.

The SETIO League will provide kits, plans, software, and coordination. A technical manual which describes a demonstration station is also available. Your getting started cost is your initial membership dues. The cost after that depends on what you already possess. The League will you select and purchase any equipment you chose not to build.

You may not hear anything for some time, but when you do hear a coherent signal, most likely it will be caused by terrestrial or satellite interference. Thousands of members may have to work for years to hear The Signal, if we ever do. SETI is definitely a gamble, with long odds, but with high stakes.

You may obtain further details by sending the League your postal address. You will then receive a sample issue of *SearcLlights*. A membership application is included on the back page. You may call the Membership Hotline at 1 800 TAU-SETI. Be sure to leave your address so we can mail you the necessary papers. The web site address is: <http://www.setileague.org/> The mailing address is:

The SETI League, Inc.  
433 Liberty Street  
PO Box 555  
Little Ferry, NJ 07643-1771  
Fax address is 201 641-1771 ☐

## VANITY CALL SIGN FEE LOWERED

By Mary Lou, NM7N  
Northwest Division Director

Vanity Call Fee: The Communications Act of 1934, as amended, requires that the FCC establish annual regulatory fees for all services administered by the Commission. The specified annual cost determination methods are specified in Section 9 of the Communications Act, and are modified by the variable annual Congressional determination of the Commission's costs necessary of recoupment. Estimates are based on perceived administrative cost for the upcoming fiscal year and are, therefore, independent of fees charged the previous fiscal year.

**FIELD DAY!**  
**...THE PLACE TO BE...**  
*Join your friends for a few hours  
or a few days - enjoy the out-  
doors - bring a friend or two!*

Once determined, these fees are put forth in a Notice of proposed Rule Making. After the comment periods, a Report and Order is issued. The only part where amateurs are involved is for a vanity call, as at present there is no other fee for an amateur license.

When the vanity call program first started, the FCC set the charge at \$30.00 (\$3.00 per year). Because of having to hand process so many applications that were improperly filled out, had new addresses, etc. for the second year of the program the FCC upped the fee to \$50.00 (\$5.00 per year). At that time we objected to such a raise until all gates had been opened, as it would be unfair to those holding a lower class of license.

Believe it or not, the proposed charge for fiscal year 1998 is \$1.29 per year or \$12.90 for a 10 year license. (The only reason I can think for the odd number is that they were trying to avoid the number 13 for the 10 year license.) The ARRL has supported the lower fee now that all gates have been opened and feels that the lower fee is a better reflection of the true costs.

Those who still wish to apply for a vanity call now have to make a decision: To pay the \$50.00 fee now and have a good chance of getting a call they want or wait until Oct. 1, 1998 when fiscal year 1998 starts and pay only \$12.90. ☐

## DIVISION HAMFESTS AND CONVENTIONS

By Mary Lou, NM7N  
Northwest Division Director

June 13-14	Rathdrum, ID Hamfest
June 27-28	FIELD DAY
July 17-19	Glacier-Waterton Hamfest, MT
July 17-19	Northwestern DX Convention, Seattle, WA
July 25	Lewiston-Clarkston Hamfest, Lewiston, ID
July 31-Aug 2	3905 Century Club, Bandon, OR
Aug. 1	Coos Bay ARC Hamfest, Bandon, OR
Aug. 1-2	Spokane Hamfest, WA
Aug. 8	Bend Hamfair, Fairgrounds, Redmond, OR
Aug. 8	Tacoma Fleamarket, Tacoma, WA
Aug. 15	LCARA, Longview, WA
June 4-5	1999 - SEAPAC, Seaside, OR <input type="checkbox"/>

## DEETH & ASSOCIATES

- \* Telecommunications
- \* Most Key Systems
- \* TIE/Norstar/ & Others
- \* Security Systems

(503) 324-3737  
Pager (503) 818-0581  
Fax: (503) 324-4833

Ray Deeth  
180 So. Main (#C)  
Banks, Oregon 97106

## FOR SALE

By Jim, KB7ADH

...By Sight Impaired Ham in Retirement Home....

### Radio Shack Realistic HTX 202, 2 mtr Hand Held

Includes: Speaker mike  
Extra battery container  
Charging unit  
Antenna  
Cable to operate from car battery  
owners manual

### Yaesu FT 208R 2 mtr Hand Held

Includes : Speaker mike  
Charging unit  
Antenna  
Cable to operate from a car battery  
Owner's manual

### Telescopic Antenna for 2 mtr Hand Held

Make offer to Jim Schaeffer, KB7ADH, at 245-2518

## PROPAGATION WEB SITE

By Editor, W7OTV

For those of you who are interested in the varying Propagation of radio waves, and the effect of Solar Activity, go to:

<http://www.dxlc.com/solar/cyclcomp.html>

This site compares solar cycles and will allow you to make some educated decisions concerning propagation. □□

## THE YEARS BEST HEADLINES!

From the **SMARC SPARKS**, newsletter of the  
Southern Maryland ARC

- ◇ Include Your Children When Baking Cookies
- ◇ Something Went Wrong In Jet Crash
- ◇ Expert Says Police Begin Campaign to Run Down Jaywalkers
- ◇ Drunk Gets Nine Months In Violin Case
- ◇ Iraqi Head Seeks Arms
- ◇ Panda Mating Fails – Veterinarian Takes Over
- ◇ British Left Waffles On Falkland Islands
- ◇ Teacher Strike Idles Kids
- ◇ Clinton Wins On Budget, But More Lies Ahead
- ◇ Plane Too Close To Ground, Crash Probe Told
- ◇ Miners Refuse To Work After Death
- ◇ Juvenile Court To Try Shooting Defendant
- ◇ Stolen Painting Found By Tree
- ◇ Two Sisters Reunited After 18 Years At Checkout Counter

- ◇ Never Withhold Herpes Infection From Loved One
- ◇ War Dims Hope For Peace
- ◇ If Strike Isn't Settled Quickly, It May Last Awhile
- ◇ Cold Wave Linked To Temperatures
- ◇ Enfields Couple Slain, Police Suspect Homicide
- ◇ Red Tape Holds Up New Bridges
- ◇ Typhoon Rips Through Cemetery – Hundreds Dead
- ◇ Man Struck By Lightning Faces Battery Charge
- ◇ New Study On Obesity Looks For Larger Test Group
- ◇ Astronaut Takes Blame For Gas In Spacecraft
- ◇ Kids Make Nutritious Snacks
- ◇ Chef Throws His Heart Into Helping Feed Needy
- ◇ Local High School Dropouts Cut In Half □□

## ATTENTION OTVARC TRAVELERS

By Marvel, KA7TZZ

*The Skamokawa campout has been changed to the weekend of July 9<sup>th</sup> through the 12<sup>th</sup>.* What would Skamok be without some kind of a SNAFU? Steve has an apparent hearing loss and reserved the *second* weekend !@#%& We realize we're committing a cardinal sin by changing the weekend, but Skamok is special, right? We hope this will not inconvenience you too much. We're booked down by the river – not first choice for some, we know ..... maybe next year.

Please contact Marvel (KA7TZZ) or Roger (KA7RNN) at **292-3261** because we do need a head count for Saturday's hamburger dinner.

□□

## AREA VE TESTING SCHEDULED

By Editor, W7OTV

### Phantom Amateur Radio Club (PARG)

Second and fourth Sunday of each month  
Contact John, KA0SSF, at 503-626-7399

### Salem Amateur Radio Club

Third Saturday of each month  
Contact Sandy, N7TQQ, at 1-800-920-9604

### McMinnville Amateur Radio Club

Monthly on Wednesday evenings  
Call Mike Jones, AB7OE, at 503-864-3291

### Clark County Amateur Radio Club

Contact 360-896-8909

### Portland Adventist Radio Club

Portland Community Policing Center  
Contact Edith, KA7MIF, at 642-5803

### Hoodview Amateur Radio Club

Contact Patsy, W7PAT, at 503-668-4305

### Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club

6 Jun., 1 Aug., and 5 Dec.  
Testing will be at the TV Fire & Rescue Bldg., 20665  
SW Blanton in Aloha., from 1PM TO 5PM. Contact Carl  
Clawson at 503-629-5796 or 526-4610 for details.

□□



## OTVARC Club Contacts

### OTVARC Executive Board

President	Betty Mickley	N7REX	642-1284
Vice President	J.D. Fort	K7JDF	259-0269
Secretary	Dale LeBarron	W7FBP	638-7768
Treasurer	Hanford Van Ness	KE7BB	246-7975
Trustee	Jack Smithson	KA7HOJ	646-1873
Trustee	Will Sheffield	N7THL	642-7314
Trustee	Janet Bell	WB7FJC	648-4147
Trustee	Al Berg	W7SIC	640-5456
Trustee	Maureen O'Rourke	KA7LAP	591-9641

### Other Club Contacts

ARRL Coordinator	Bob Orr	WF7Q	472-2716
Bunny Hunting	OPEN		
Contesting	OPEN		
DX News	OPEN		
Equipment Loan	Stan Griffiths	W7NI	649-0837
Equipment Valuation	Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
Equipment Trustee	Al Berg	W7SIC	640-5456
Emergency Services	J.D. Fort	K7JDF	259-0269
Field Day Coordinator	Alan Chinnock	KB7POR	636-2237
Health & Welfare	Mary Berg	N7TRW	640-5456
Historian	Al Berg	W7SIC	640-5456
Internet Home Page	Marc Chamberlin	WA7PXW	357-1869
Member Badges	Carl Clawson	WS7L	629-5796
Newsletter Editor	Dale LeBarron	W7FBP	638-7768
Newsletter Layout	Dale LeBarron	W7FBP	638-7768
Newsletter Distribution	Al Berg	W7SIC	640-5456
Nominating Committee	Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
Packet - Club BBS	Rick Braun	KB7OGD	645-1490
Project Night	Alan Chinnock	KB7POR	636-2237
	Chuck Mickley	KI7CL	652-1284
Public Relations	J.D. Fort	K7JDF	259-0269
Public Service	Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
Repeater	Wes Allen	K7WWG	649-3295
RFI & TVI	Dale Mosby	K7FW	640-0217
Satellites	Open		
Scholarship	Carl Clawson	WS7L	629-5796
Sea-Pac	Al Berg	W7SIC	640-5456
"	Brad Beach	N7NVC	657-1781
"	Jim Schaeffer	KB7ADH	245-2518
"	Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
Station Trustee	Chuck Mickley	KI7CL	642-3713
Social	Harold Landers	WA0BRU	620-5041
Technical Specialist	Stan Griffiths	W7NI	649-0837
Tower Ordinances	Greg Milnes	W7AGQ	648-6990
Trailer	Dee Lynch	KA7NPN	646-4580
Training(code)	Burt Rooke(PCC)	KI7JX	241-2891
Training(Novice/Tech)	Burt Rooke(PCC)	KI7JX	241-2891
Training(upgrade)	OPEN		
VE Test Coordinator	Carl Clawson	WS7L	629-5796
VHF/UHF	Arnold Jensen	N7YAG	543-3713

## OTVARC Club Information

**Purpose:** The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club, a Not-for-profit corporation, wants to be instrumental in helping the prospective as well as established Amateur to become a proficient communicator in the Amateur Radio Service.

Additionally, the intent is to promote the advancement of Amateur Radio Service, through the following five objectives:

1. Education & Training of new and licensed Amateurs.
2. Public Service during public events & community activities.
3. Emergency communications during emergencies & disasters.
4. Hobby enhancement through meetings, nets & contests.
5. Social contact with other amateurs & interested persons.

**Special Service Club:** OTVARC is an ARRL Special Service Club. The ARRL grants us this distinction due to our participation in emergency preparedness exercises, public service events and other service-oriented programs. In addition, continuing educational and training programs are conducted for FCC licenses. OTVARC benefits from you joining the ARRL through OTVARC. To join or renew your membership in the ARRL, contact the treasurer at any regular meeting.

**Newsletter:** The *OTVARC Oscillator* is the club newsletter. It is published monthly and is usually mailed on the first of the month. The opinions, views, and recommendations of its contributors are not necessarily those of the club, its officers, advertisers or the editorial staff.

**Correspondence:** All correspondence may be sent to OTVARC, PO Box 5132, Aloha, OR 97006-0132.

**Advertising:** Classified ads are free to all paid up members. Display ads are available to approved commercial interests. To place an ad, mail your camera ready copy to the address above and indicate the size desired. All display ads run for six months at a time, from January through June and July through December. All ads must be paid for in advance. Rates are as follows:

Full page	8" X 10"	\$200 for six months
Half page	8" X 5"	\$120 for six months
Qtr page	4" X 5"	\$72 for six months
Bus.Card	2" X 3"	\$36 for six months

**Meetings:** We have two meetings per month. The board meeting is on the fourth Wednesday of each month. All club business is conducted at this meeting. All members are welcome to attend. Contact the President for location and time. The general meeting is on the second Wednesday of each month at the Beaverton Elks Lodge. 3500 SW 104<sup>th</sup> Ave. (1 block north of Canyon Road). Meetings start at 7PM. If you would like to come early, you can get a nice meal from the Elks for less than \$6.00.

**Membership:** OTVARC is open to anyone who is interested in amateur radio. You do not need to be a licensed radio amateur to join. Dues are as follows: Full member, \$10/yr; Associate member (non-licensed), \$10/yr; Family members of full member, \$5/yr; Life memberships available - see the Treasurer. Only full members and life members may vote on club business and serve as club officers. All memberships expire on the last day of the calendar year. If you would like to join during the year, see the club treasurer for prorated dues.

**How to join:** Simply mail the Membership application and/or renewal form along with your dues to the address above.

1998 marks OTVARC's twentieth year as an active club!

Please help celebrate this anniversary by contacting any club officer with your ideas on possible anniversary activities.

### WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION



**Ray McCarty**  
Manager  
K17TN

11705 S.W. Pacific Hwy.  
Portland, OR 97223  
(503) 598-0555, 1-800-854-6045  
Fax (503) 684-0469

ALBANY, CA • ATLANTA, GA • BURLINGAME, CA • DENVER, CO  
NEWCASTLE, DE • OAKLAND, CA • PHOENIX, AZ • PORTLAND, OR  
SALEM, NH • SAN DIEGO, CA • SPANGLER, VA • WOODBRIDGE, VA

---

## **OTVARC**

**OregonTualatin Valley ARC**  
**PO Box 5132**  
**Aloha, OR 97006-0132**

Address Correction Requested



**FIELD DAY!**  
***COME ON DOWN***  
***ANYTIME ON***  
***JUNE 27 & 28***  
***See what's happening!***